

Physical Therapy Assistant Associate of Applied Science

Prior to admission to the Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA) Associate of Applied Science (AAS), students complete prerequisite courses in the Pre-Health Professions Major

1. **Apply to the College:** Apply to FCC and declare Pre-Health Profession PTA as your major.
2. **Complete Placement Tests:** Complete FCC placement tests as needed - consult with Admissions or Advising.
3. **Submit Official Transcripts:** Send official college/university and high school transcripts, SAT & ACT scores as well as any CLEP, IB or AP scores to the Registration and Records Office.
 - a. Minimum unweighted 2.5 GPA from high school transcripts **OR** cumulative of college work (at least 12 credits)
4. **Apply for Financial Aid:** Apply for Financial Assistance – Submit the FAFSA and apply for scholarships.
5. **Complete Pre-Admission Courses:** Complete the following requirements with a grade of C or higher*

MATH – MATH 120 Statistics or Higher

BSCI 150- Principles of Biology

* Final pre-admission courses, including sciences, can be in progress the semester application is submitted or planned for summer semester. Student must pass BSCI 150 and MATH 120 or higher with a C or higher prior to admission in the Fall.

6. **Complete the TEAS:** Prior to applying to the PTA Program, complete the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) and earn a score that qualifies your application for review.
 - **Minimum qualifying TEAS Score**
 - Overall score in the proficient range or above (minimum 58.7% overall)
 - Register for the TEAS through atitesting.com. Students can take the TEAS at FCC's Testing Center.
 - Submit Application and Qualifying TEAS Score to the PTA Program (scores must be within the last 2 years)
7. **Essay:** Students will respond to an essay prompt at the testing center. This can be completed after the completion of their TEAS exam. If the TEAS exam was taken at another facility or online, the student can arrange to complete the essay through FCC Testing Center prior to the application deadline. The essay is rated according to a rubric that is posted on the FCC PTA webpage. The points are added to the students overall score for ranking all qualified applicants.
8. **Complete Observation Hours:** Complete 30 hours of observation time with a PT or PTA in at least two different types of facilities. For example, 10 hours at a hospital and 20 hours at an

outpatient site. Submit signed PTA Observation Hours Verification forms with application. (Due to COVID-19 for 2022 application cycle, all observation hours are waived for application.)

9. **Complete Service Hours:** Complete in 20 hours of volunteer service hours in the last year January 2021 through May 2022. Service hours can be obtained through religious or community organizations. If you are having difficulty locating volunteer opportunities please contact the PTA director through email. Hours may not include your observation hours with a PT/PTA. Submit signed Service/Volunteer Hour Form with your application. (Due to COVID-19 for 2022 application cycle, all service/volunteer hours are waived for application.)
 - a. Additional points will be award for volunteer hours over 30 hours (Students can still earn additional points for the 2022 application cycle)

10. **Work Experience:** No work experience is required for application, but related work experience as Physical Therapy tech or aide, Athletic Trainer, Exercise Physiologist, Massage therapist, or CNA qualifies the applicant for additional points on their application. *The hours must be completed in the past year (January 2021 – May 2022)* and the work experience must be documented on the Employment Verification Form.

11. **Read Essential Functions for a PTA Career (on FCC PTA webpage):** Students will need to attest to being able to perform the physical tasks, observational skills, behavioral responsibilities, and cognitive abilities necessary to be a PTA. The information to review is located on the FCC PTA webpage under Prospective Students.

For those students who have submitted all documentation and met the above criteria, a point system is used to select candidates for admission to the technical portion of FCC’s PTA program. Points are assigned for grades in the general education courses completed by time of the application, work experience, service/volunteer hours, and previous degrees. The students with the highest point total are offered admission to the program. If an accepted student declines his/her seat in the program or fails to meet summer course requirements, the next eligible student with the highest score is offered admission to the program.

Completion of additional program courses (see below) by the application deadline is highly recommended as this adds points to a student’s application and makes the student more competitive for admission.

Criteria for Admission to the PTA Program

COURSES		Max Points Possible	Points Earned
Required elements for consideration		All items must be complete	All items must be complete
Criteria	Submitted		
Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or greater			
MATH 120 or higher and BSCI 150 complete or in progress			
TEAS test with 58.7% or greater			
Essay at Testing Center			
30 hours of observation with PT/PTA	NA 2022		

20 service learning hours	NA 2022																							
Points for courses are awarded based on grade earned. A = 6 points B= 4 points C= 2 points																								
Medical Terminology (MEDA 109) – not required for graduation (MEDA 109 credit received from FCPS CTC program will receive 6 points)		6																						
Principles of Biology (BSCI 150)		6																						
Statistics or higher (MATH 120 or higher)		6																						
English Composition (ENGL 101)		6																						
General Psychology (PSYC 101)		6																						
Anatomy & Physiology I (BSCI 201)		6																						
Anatomy & Physiology II (BSCI 202)		6																						
Small Group Communication (COMM 105) <i>or a general education COMM elective and a cultural competence elective</i>		6																						
Earned Associate’s Degree		3																						
Earned Bachelor’s Degree or higher		6																						
Volunteer Experience – over 30 hours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 20 hours = required ▪ 30 hours = 1 points ▪ 40 hours = 2 points ▪ 50 hours = 3 points ▪ 60 hours = 4 points ▪ 70 hours = 5 points ▪ 80 hours = 6 points 		6																						
Work Experience – not required for application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 200 hours = 2 points ▪ 250 hours = 3 points ▪ 300 hours = 4 points ▪ 350 hours = 5 points ▪ 400 hours or greater = 6 points 		6																						
TEAS Test		varies																						
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Category</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Score</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Conversion to points x.2</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total score</td> <td></td> <td>XXX</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reading</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Math</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Science</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>English</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>Add →</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Category	Score	Conversion to points x.2	Total score		XXX	Reading			Math			Science			English			Total	Add →		
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Total	Add →																							
Essay – see rubric on PTA webpage Total points are divided by 3		11.67																						
TOTAL																								

Effective April 26, 2022, Frederick Community College PTA Program has been granted Candidate for Accreditation status by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Ave., Suite 100, Alexandria, Virginia 22305-3085; phone: 703-706- 3245; email: accreditation@apta.org). If needing to contact the program/institution directly, please call Amelia Iams, PT, DPT at 301-846-2644 or email aiams@frederick.edu. Candidate for Accreditation is an accreditation status of affiliation with the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education that indicates the program may matriculate 25 students in technical/professional courses. Achievement of Candidate for Accreditation status does not assure that the program will be granted Initial Accreditation.